regarding irrationality of 10 branded products commonly prescribed/used in the country. None of these products are, however, hazardous and their rationality also appears to be acceptable in the context of their intended use.

(b) and (c) The Government laboratories are required to test quality of drugs. As such no allegation or apprehension has been expressed in the background paper with regard to the quality of these drugs. However, there is a system for reviewing of drugs suspected to be irrational or harmful.

Amendment of Drugs and Magic Remedies Act

357. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any move in Ministry to amend the Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act to make illegal any advertisement for unvalidated cures for medical conditions by any medical practitioner; and

(b) if so, the details of the move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The ambit of Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954 is envisaged to be enlarged to cover the advertisements offering treatment, in respect of certain diseases or offering to alter certain functions of human body, for the purpose of exercising control over advertisements for invalidated cures for medical conditions by medical practitioners.

Sarva Swasthya Abhiyan

358. DR. KARAN SINGH:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, while launching National Rural Health Mission, the Planning Commission has proposed a Sarva Swasthya Abhiyan (Health for All) along the lines of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (Education for All);

(b) if so, whether it wants health mission entirely to be Centrally funded because the States have regularly failed to set aside funds for health; and

(c) if so, whether the Abhiyan would enhance quantity and quality of the health sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) One of the interventions recommended by the Planning Commission in the Mid-term appraisal of the 10th Five Year Plan related to launch of Sarva Swasthya Abhiyan on the lines of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.

The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) is largely based on the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and aims at providing accessible, affordable, effective, accountable and reliable healthcare to all citizens and in particular, to the poorer and the vulnerable sections of the population. The NRHM is basically a strategy for energizing public healthcare already available under the Government system. At the time of finalization of NRHM strategies, the strategies adopted under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan have been taken into consideration. There is no recommendation of the Planning Commission that the Health Mission should be entirely Centrally funded. In any event, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is also not fully funded by the Central Government.

Rules for preventing food adulteration

359. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the rules and regulations governing prevention of food adulteration in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the existing laws have proved to be ineffective in preventing food adulteration in the country;

(c) whether any comparative study has been undertaken between the Indian laws and those adopted by the Developed Nations to learn how those countries have succeeded in nearly eliminating food adulteration and the shortcomings of the Indian laws; and